

ABSTRACT**Process for the Deprotection of Protected Thiols**

5       The synthesis of peptides comprising disulphide bridges is challenging since it is difficult to ensure that the correct cysteine residues combine to form the desired disulphide bridges. The present invention describes novel protection techniques useful in the preparation of peptides.

10      Described is a process for the deprotection of an Acm-, MBzl- and/or tBu-protected thiol which comprises reacting said protected thiol with an acid in the presence of an oxidising agent at a temperature sufficient to effect deprotection and generation of disulphide bonds.

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